

King Edward's Hospital Fund for London.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1937.

FORTIETH ANNIVERSARY.

1. The King's Fund was founded by King Edward VII, then Prince of Wales, in 1897. Its fortieth anniversary was celebrated on October 22nd, 1937, by a luncheon given at the Mansion House by the then Lord Mayor, Sir George Broadbridge, to the President, His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent, the Members of the Council and Committees, and numerous other workers for and friends of the Fund. The Council are very grateful to Sir George Broadbridge for this kindly and generous action.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF THE YEAR.

2. The total amount distributed was again £302,000, including as in 1936 the ordinary distribution of £300,000 to hospitals and convalescent homes, and the District Nursing distribution of £2,000 in respect of the work done by the Associations in relief of Hospital Out-patient Departments.

3. The current income available for the distribution, derived from subscriptions, donations, income from investments and general legacies, again fell a little short of the amount required, the difference in 1937 being £3,700 as against £7,643 in 1936.

4. In addition to general legacies, the first instalments were received in December from the residue of the estate of the late Mr. Percy Johnson, the allocation of which will be considered when more is known of its probable amount.

KING'S FUND RECEIPTS.

5. The total receipts of the King's Fund for the year 1937, including general income, contributions earmarked for capital account and special receipts amounted to £470,763 11s. 11d.

6. The general receipts were made up as follows :—	£	s.	d.
Annual Subscriptions	23,042	6	6
Donations	12,077	14	8
League of Mercy	5,000	0	0
Dividends and Interest from Investments	193,299	6	1
General Legacies	81,754	2	10
	<u>£315,173 10 1</u>		

making, with £100,100 15s. from the estate of the late Mr. Percy Johnson and £46 14s. 7d. from the estate of the late Mr. Samuel Lewis, a total of £415,320 19s. 8d. The receipts earmarked for capital account were £30,826 11s. 5d., being the gifts of anonymous donors of £29,498 and £1,292 18s., and £35 13s. 5d. from the estate of the late Mr. Henry Herbert Wills ; and receipts on account of various special purposes amounted to £24,616 os. 10d.

DISTRIBUTIONS.

7. The analysis of the ordinary and District Nursing distributions in the year 1937 as compared with 1936 is as follows :—

	1937	1936
Number of Hospitals receiving grants	145	146
Number of Convalescent Homes receiving grants ...	58	56
Grants to Hospitals :	£	£
For maintenance (including recovery and convalescent branches)	266,675	265,950
For extensions and improvements	30,325	31,050
Total ordinary distribution to Hospitals (including branches)	297,000	297,000
Grants to Convalescent Homes not attached to London Hospitals	3,000	3,000
Total ordinary distribution	300,000	300,000
District Nursing Distribution—Grants to Hospitals in respect of out-patients referred to District Nursing Associations in relief of out-patient departments	2,000	2,000
Grand Total of Distributions	<u>£302,000</u>	<u>£302,000</u>

8. The Distribution Committee, as always, received great assistance from the reports made by the King's Fund Visitors who inspect the Hospitals in June and July. Extracts on which the Committee desire the observations of the Hospitals concerned are now forwarded either at once, or shortly before the distribution meetings in the autumn, or with the grants in December, as seems most appropriate.

9. The total sum distributed among Hospitals and Convalescent Homes during the last ten years, including all special distributions, is £3,262,430. Since the foundation of the Fund in 1897 a total net amount of £9,077,284 has been thus disbursed.

SPECIAL ITEMS AMONG THE RECEIPTS.

10. His Majesty King George VI, Patron of the Fund, was graciously pleased to give an annual subscription of £1,000. Her Majesty The Queen, and Her Majesty Queen Mary, were again pleased to subscribe generously to the Fund, as were also Their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Gloucester, the Duke of Kent, the Princess Royal, the Duke of Connaught, and other members of the Royal Family.

11. The Fund received annual subscriptions of £4,000 from the Drapers' Company, £2,000 from the Imperial Tobacco Company (of Great Britain and Ireland) Ltd., £1,000 10s. from "M.M.," £1,000 from Messrs. Baring Brothers and Company, Ltd., and £1,000 from the Merchant Taylors' Company.

Other contributions included annual subscriptions of £655 14s. 8d. from Mr. Philip Fleming; of £625 from Lloyds Bank, Ltd.; of £500 from the Clothworkers' Company and from Messrs. Morgan, Grenfell & Co.; and of £333 6s. 8d. from the Central Mining and Investment Corporation, Ltd.

Donations included £1,726 16s. 8d. from Messrs. Baring Brothers & Co., Ltd.; £1,050 from Viscount Wakefield; £1,000 from Messrs. Marks & Spencer, Ltd.; £500 from "J.R.B."; and £300 from the Royal Naval Benevolent Trust. The Fund also received three anonymous donations of £1,000 each, two of them being from the same donor, one in commemoration of the Coronation and the other of the Fund's fortieth anniversary. This donor had given £1,000 in 1935 in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee. In addition, the Fund received anonymous gifts of £29,498 and £1,292 18s. 0d. for capital purposes.

12. The Fund also received further gifts amounting to £20,000 for its radium service from a generous donor. With the aid of his donations the Fund's stock of radium has been considerably increased, and various schemes for increasing the usefulness of this method of treatment have been greatly facilitated.

13. The sum of £5,000 was received in 1937 from the League of Mercy, being the League's 40th contribution to the King's Fund. The League, since it was founded in 1899, has now contributed £574,000 to the Fund.

14. Legacies received during the year included the following: Mr. Percy Johnson, £100,100 15s. 0d., on account of residue; Mr. William Charles Wilson, £11,848 6s. 8d., further on account of share of residue (making a total of £13,848 6s. 8d. received to date); Mrs. Isabel Cumming, £10,000; Mr. George Frederick Gibbons, £9,000, on account of residue; Mr. Hugh St. John Munro, £7,765 2s. 0d., further on account of residue (making a total of £8,011 16s. 2d. received to date); Mrs. Julia Clementina Gulland, £7,067 os. 4d., on account of residue; Mr. Alfred Richard Cozens, £6,970 7s. 11d., further on account of residue (making a total of £11,720 7s. 11d. received to date); Mrs. Mary Young, £4,860 3s. 8d., further on account of residue (making a total of £22,705 3s. 8d. received to date); Miss Flora Mason, £4,600, on account of residue; Mr. Edward John Stephens, £4,560, on account of share of residue; Mr. William Hurst, £3,254 10s. 4d., further on account of residue (making a total of £9,389 1s. 4d. received to date); Mrs. Grace Robinson, £2,700 18s. 0d., on account of residue; Mr. John Cyril Lees Collingham, £1,812 8s. 6d.; Commander Francis William Chaine, £1,594 19s. 1d., further on account of share of residue (making a total of £13,100 15s. 3d. received to date); Mrs. Margaret Carlota Westmacott, £1,000; Mr. John George Mills, £823 7s. 5d.; Mr. Charles Ansell, £513 6s. 2d., further on account (making a total of £10,343 14s. 4d. received to date); Miss Anne Dunbar Duff, £500; Mr. Robert Ferguson Miller, £500; Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Crawford, £345 17s. 3d., on account of share of residue; Dr. Edward Charles Masser, £300; Mrs. Eliza Sinclair, £295 12s. 8d., further on account of share of residue (making a total of £1,063 4s. 9d. received to date); Mr. George Chapple, £200; Mr. Francis Beaumont Ellison, £200; and Mrs. Jessie Ashton, £144 6s. 10d., further on account of residue (making a total of £36,017 received to date).

15. The Council are very grateful to the Trustees of the Estate of the late Mr. Edward Clark for a further gift of £500 to the Fund in the exercise of their discretionary powers, making a total of £7,500 received to date from this source.

16. In dealing with legacies, it has been the practice of the Fund since its foundation (i) to include in general income in the published accounts, as being legally available for general purposes, all legacies, of whatever amount, not earmarked by the testator for investment as capital or for some other special purpose; (ii) to include in the estimates on which the distribution is based all general legacies, *i.e.*, those which are not exceptionally large, any resulting surplus or deficit being added to or taken from reserve; (iii) to invest exceptionally large legacies, as was done with those of Lord MountStephen, Lady Wilton, Sir Thomas

Sutherland and Mr. Samuel Lewis, amounting in all to £1,980,000 ; though in one instance, that of the legacies of Mr. and Mrs. Wells, amounting together to £255,000, they were used to meet special and urgent hospital needs arising out of the War. The first instalments of the bequest of the late Mr. Percy Johnson indicate that this also will be exceptionally large, but a final decision as to its disposal has been deferred until more is known of the total that will be received.

17. The Council desire to emphasise the fact that the correct title of the Fund is " King Edward's Hospital Fund for London," and that the full title should always be used in bequests intended for the Fund.

EXPENSES.

18. Expenses during the year, covering all the widespread activities of the King's Fund, amounted to £16,873 2s. 6d. Less than a quarter of this sum is expenditure on the collection of funds and on propaganda for the King's Fund and the Hospitals.

BANK OF ENGLAND DISTRIBUTION AND OTHER SPECIAL TRUSTS.

19. The amount specially distributed on behalf of the Bank of England amounted to £2,260 10s. as against £2,310 10s. in 1936. The list of grants includes substantial donations to four of the building schemes for which Hospitals had made appeals to the Bank.

20. The Fund also made the following payments from trust funds for special purposes, viz., £939 18s. 2d. to the Miller Hospital in reduction of the building debt, out of the income of the special trust gift received in 1930 ; and £891 11s. 11d. to the Central London Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital, under the Will of the late Sir John Young, towards the maintenance of the Dame Gertrude Young Memorial Convalescent Home, bequeathed to the King's Fund and used and managed by the Hospital in accordance with the terms of the Will.

DISTRIBUTION IN AID OF DISTRICT NURSING WORK FOR HOSPITAL OUT-PATIENTS.

21. The second distribution of £2,000 for the assistance, through the hospitals, of District Nursing Work in relief of their out-patient departments, was carried out in April on the basis of the number of out-patients referred by hospitals to District Nursing Associations in 1936. Grants were thus made to 81 Hospitals in respect of 16,400 patients attended by 105 District Nursing Associations.

REDUCTION OF WAITING IN OUT-PATIENT DEPARTMENTS.

22. A pamphlet on time-saving methods in connection with the arrival and registration of out-patients was issued by the Out-patient Arrangements Committee in June. It describes various ways in which very much has been done and can still be done by Hospitals to reduce waiting by shortening the interval between the time when patients arrive and the time when they see the doctor. At some Hospitals the hour for the arrival of the first patients has been deliberately fixed much closer to the hour for the arrival of the doctors than is sometimes thought possible. Other Hospitals have greatly reduced waiting by giving different times of arrival to certain different classes of patients. Others again have applied this principle still more effectively by introducing a system of appointments for groups of patients or even for individuals. The pamphlet urges all Hospitals to adopt these methods wherever practicable.

The Out-patient Arrangements Committee had already issued a similar memorandum dealing with time-saving methods at Hospital dispensaries, where patients get their medicines after seeing the doctor. The present pamphlet includes notes on all the items of procedure before they see the doctor. By thus supplementing the original recommendations of the Out-patient Committee of 1932, the King's Fund has now supplied Hospital Committees with information and suggestions dealing more or less fully with nearly the whole work of an out-patient department, and it is hoped that the great attention which the Hospitals are giving to the subject will lead to further considerable reductions in waiting.

KING'S FUND PROPAGANDA.

23. The new Hospital film, entitled "The War Without End," was completed in the Autumn with the aid of Lord Wakefield's gift, and was shown for the first time at the Leicester Square Theatre in the presence of His Royal Highness the President. Enquiries have been received from various parts of the world and it is hoped to secure a wide distribution, including a number of cinema bookings in the London area. The other activities of the Propaganda Committee included a lecture by M. André Maurois, which, by the kind invitation of the Ambassador, was given at the French Embassy; visits to places of historic interest in London for which special facilities were granted to the King's Fund; drawing-room meetings; and a continuation of the series of lectures to schools which have proved successful in awakening interest in the work of voluntary hospitals. The miniature Hospital was shown in various places, and arrangements were made, at the request of the Ministry of Health, for its loan to the Health Section of the Empire Exhibition at Glasgow in 1938.

24. The Council also desire to thank the Press for their co-operation, which has been very helpful to the Committee's various undertakings and to the work of the King's Fund in general.

KING'S FUND RADIUM.

25. During 1936 and 1937 a further seven grammes of radium was bought with the aid of gifts received for the purpose from a generous donor. With this radium additional loans have been made to several Hospitals to enable them to develop the method of treatment at a distance, known as teleradium. The radium for this purpose is made up in large units of from 1 gramme to 4 grammes.

26. The Fund's radium now totals 17 grammes, of which about $16\frac{1}{4}$ are on standing loan to 18 Hospitals and the balance in a pool whence it is available, with some other radium lent to the Fund, for temporary loans when required to two of these Hospitals and 15 others.

27. The King's Fund continues to use its influence to secure that all these Hospitals should have adequate follow-up systems and keep records of the subsequent history of patients on the lines already adopted by the National Radium Commission.

CO-OPERATION AMONG VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS.

28. The King's Fund encourages co-operation among Voluntary Hospitals, and itself co-operates in various ways with the British Hospitals Association and the Voluntary Hospitals Committee for the County of London.

29. In February, when certain questions of principle affecting Voluntary Hospital finance arose out of contributory schemes, the Fund issued a circular to the Hospitals on its books urging the importance of co-operation with the Voluntary Hospitals Committee in the adoption of a common policy.

30. The Fund was consulted during the year by the Voluntary Hospitals Committee on a proposal to establish a central organisation which would facilitate the rapid admission of urgent cases to Voluntary Hospitals where beds were returned as available at the moment. By the end of the year a large number of Hospitals had assured the Voluntary Hospitals Committee of their readiness to co-operate ; and the Management Committee had indicated their willingness to assist with the scheme and to make a recommendation to the Council on the subject at the Annual Meeting in 1938.

31. Both the King's Fund and the British Hospitals Association have had under their consideration the Collecting Charities (Regulation) Bill, and by the end of the year the

Voluntary Hospitals Parliamentary Committee of the Fund, on behalf of both bodies, had agreed upon various suggestions in the hope of securing the objects of the Bill without detriment to the legitimate activities of Voluntary Hospitals.

32. The Council learned with great pleasure of the success of the scheme by which three combined Hospital flag days during the year took the place of the previous 77 separate days, and produced larger aggregate receipts. The representative organising Committee for the scheme had been set up as the result of conferences which the King's Fund was asked by the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police and by the Hospitals to convene in 1936, and its Chairman, Lord Luke, was nominated by the Fund.

PERSONAL.

33. At the Annual Meeting in June a resolution of congratulation forwarded to Their Majesties The King and Queen on the occasion of their Coronation, was read, together with a gracious reply which had been received. These are printed in the report of the proceedings at the Meeting.

34. His Majesty The King has been graciously pleased to present the Fund with a portrait of himself, as has also His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent. The Board Room thus now contains portraits of all the Presidents since the foundation of the Fund.

35. On July 6th, His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent visited the Offices of the Fund and took the Chair at the ordinary meeting of the Management Committee. Pictures of the meeting were taken for inclusion in the new Hospital film "The War Without End."

36. The Council regret the loss by death of Mr. H. C. King, who had done good work on the Propaganda Committee since its establishment and had just been appointed a member of the Revenue Committee.

37. At the Distribution Meeting in December the President announced that Sir Leonard Cohen had been compelled by ill-health to resign from the Distribution Committee after 27 years of very valuable service, but would continue as an Honorary Secretary and a member of the Management Committee. It was with the deepest regret that the Council learned of his death while this Report was in preparation.

38. They have also to express their regret at the resignation of Dr. Garvie, who had been a member of the Council for 20 years.

SPECIAL NEEDS, 1938.

39. Several causes combine at present to make it necessary for the hospitals to obtain still further increases in income : the rise in prices, the constant need for improved buildings and equipment to keep pace with modern developments, and the cost of administrative changes, of which the provision of better conditions for nurses is one example. It is therefore important that the distribution should be maintained, and as soon as possible increased, so that the knowledge which the Distribution Committee possess of the relative needs of the different hospitals, and the power of the King's Fund to give special assistance in cases of urgency, may be used to the best advantage.

ST. JAMES'S PALACE, *May* 27, 1938.

